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Connecticut Educational Media Association
25 Elmwood Ave., Trumbull, CT 06611-3594

CC9645
...Connecting with
Learning Resources and Technology

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Judith G. Savage, President
15 Evergreen Road
Northford, CT 06472

March 31, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt,

It has come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission will soon vote on the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and, on behalf of the Connecticut Educational Media Association, I would like to encourage you to support implementation of the Act, as recommended by the Federal-State Joint Board.


The Connecticut Educational Media Association is our state professional organization for school library media specialists. Our almost 500 members work directly with teachers and children as they learn to assimilate to our rapidly changing technological environment.

While equity of access to information has become a major issue in our society, the role of school libraries in addressing that issue is quite clear. There is an urgent need for affordable classroom connections to the information resources and educational opportunities found on the Internet and available through distance learning. Deep discounts for telecommunications services are urgently needed, to offset the growing disparity between those schools with access and those without.

Please consider the information needs of the country's children, who will most certainly be the voting citizens of tomorrow.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely yours,

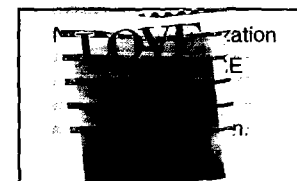

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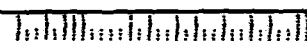
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Connecticut Educational Media Association
25 Elmwood Ave., Trumbull, CT 06611-3594



The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554



Carolyn A. Sheehy
Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director
of Library Services



March 27, 1997

Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Chairman Hundt:

RE: CC Docket 96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools

I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for libraries and schools as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allow libraries and schools significant discounts for the telecommunications and *critical, non-telecommunications* services necessary to assure that *all* of our public libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that libraries and schools would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools and libraries that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telecommunications companies and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for libraries and schools. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Carolyn A. Sheehy
Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director
of Library Services

CAS/pt

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96-45

Greenville Public Schools

516 W. CASS STREET / GREENVILLE, MI 48838 / 616 754-3686 / FAX 616 754-5374

March 19, 1997

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Mr. Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Hundt:

As Superintendent of Schools of the Greenville Public Schools, I urge you and the Commission to support the recommendation of the federal-state joint committee to provide school districts discounts on telecommunications services, internet access, and related wiring.

Our school district has made a commitment to providing the technology necessary for teaching and learning. We live in a high-tech world, but schools, because of cost and limited funding, are low-tech institutions.

Help us fulfill our vision of high-tech learning for all students. Your support would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Thomas Pridgeon
Superintendent

slf

cc: Representative David Camp
Senator Spencer Abraham
Senator Carl Levin

MISSION STATEMENT

As a cooperating partner of the community, Greenville Public Schools will assure all students the education necessary to participate as responsible citizens in an ever-changing world.

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Fay Yao
Rio Grande High School
2300 Arenal Rd. SW
Albuquerque, NM 87105

March 31, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:


I am a library and information specialist from Rio Grande High School, Albuquerque Public Schools District, New Mexico. I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Super-highway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Fay Yao

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SS. Peter & Paul School

416 N. First St.
Cary, IL 60013

Telephone 847-839-3041
Fax 847-839-5329

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

March 29, 1997

Dear Honorable Reed Hundt,

RE: CC Docket 96-45 - Universal Service to Schools and Libraries

I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for schools and libraries as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allow school and libraries significant discounts for the telecommunications and *critical, non-telecommunications* services necessary to assure that *all* of our schools are connected to the Internet, and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that Schools and Libraries would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telco and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our schools and libraries --and-- ultimately for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Sr. Katrina Lamkin
Principal

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ALSIP—MERRIONETTE PARK LIBRARY
11960 S. PULASKI ROAD
ALSIP, ILLINOIS 60658
708-371-5666

March 28, 1997

Hon. Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW - Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

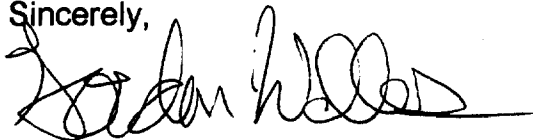
RE: Docket 96-45 (Universal Service to Libraries and Schools)

I am writing, as a public librarian, and as a citizen, to strongly support meaningful discounts for libraries and schools as envisioned in the Federal State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allow libraries and schools significant price benefits on telecommunications services and critical non-telecommunications services necessary to assure that all of our public libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in a world that is increasingly information-driven.

Thanks for your attention to this important matter for our libraries and schools, and ultimately, for us all; a more information-literate society is in everyone's best interest.

Sincerely,



Gordon Welles
Library Director